
Title: Enki's Journey to Nibru

Author: Witchcraft

1-8. In those remote days, when the fates were determined; in a year when An brought about abundance, and people broke through the earth like green plants -- then the lord of the abzu, King Enki, Enki, the lord who determines the fates, built up his temple entirely from silver and lapis lazuli. Its silver and lapis lazuli were the shining daylight. Into the shrine of the abzu he brought joy.

9-17. An artfully made bright crenellation rising out from the abzu was erected for Lord Nudimmud. He built the temple from precious metal, decorated it with lapis lazuli, and covered it abundantly with gold. In Eridug, he built the house on the bank. Its brickwork makes utterances and gives advice. Its eaves roar like a bull; the temple of Enki bellows. During the night the temple praises its lord and offers its best for him.

18-25. Before Lord Enki, Isimud the minister praises the temple; he goes to the temple and speaks to it. He goes to the brick building and addresses it: "Temple, built from precious metal and lapis lazuli; whose foundation pegs are driven into the abzu; which has been cared for by the

prince in the abzu! Like
the Tigris and the
Euphrates, it is mighty
and awe-inspiring (?). Joy
has been brought into
Enki's abzu."

26-32. "Your lock has no
rival. Your bolt is a
fearsome lion. Your roof
beams are the bull of
heaven, an artfully made
bright headgear. Your
reed-mats are like lapis
lazuli, decorating the
roof-beams. Your vault is
a {bull} {(some mss. have
instead:) wild bull} raising
its horns. Your door is a
lion who {seizes a man}
{(1 ms. has instead:) is
awe-inspiring}. Your
stairway is a lion coming
down on a man."

which fulfils its purpose!
E-engura! Your lord has
directed his steps
towards you. Enki, lord of
the abzu, has embellished
your foundation pegs with
cornelian. He has adorned
you with and (?) lapis
lazuli. The temple of Enki
is provisioned with holy
wax (?); it is a bull
obedient to its master,
roaring by itself and
giving advice at the same
time. E-engura, which Enki
has surrounded with a
holy reed fence! In your
midst a lofty throne is
erected, your door-jamb
is the holy locking bar of
heaven."

44-48. "Abzu, pure place,
place where the fates
are determined -- the
lord of wisdom, Lord Enki,
{(1 ms. adds 1 line:) the
lord who determines the
fates,} Nudimmud, the
lord of Eridug, lets
nobody look into its
midst. Your abgal priests
let their hair down their
backs."

49-61. "Enki's beloved

Eridug, E-engura whose
inside is full of
abundance! Abzu, life of
the Land, beloved of Enki!
Temple built on the edge,
befitting the artful divine
powers! Eridug, your
shadow extends over the
midst of the sea! Rising
sea without a rival;
mighty awe-inspiring river
which terrifies the Land!
E-engura, high citadel (?)
standing firm on the
earth! Temple at the edge
of the engur, a lion in
the midst of the abzu;
lofty temple of Enki,
which bestows wisdom on
the Land; your cry, like
that of a mighty rising
river, reaches (?) King
Enki."

62-67. "He made {the
lyre, the aljar instrument,
the balaj drum with the
drumsticks} {(some mss.
have instead:) the lyre,
the aljar instrument, the
balaj drum of your sur
priests} {(1 ms. has
instead:) your lyre and
aljar instrument, the
balaj drum with the
drumsticks} {(1 ms. has
instead:) the lyre, the
aljar instrument, the
balaj drum and even the
plectrum (?)}, the harhar,
the sabitum, and the
miritum instruments offer
their best for his holy
temple. The resounded
by themselves with a
sweet sound. The holy
aljar instrument of Enki
played for him on his own
and seven {singers sang}
{(some mss. have instead:)
tigi drums resounded.}"

68-70. "What Enki says
is irrefutable; is well
established (?)." This is
what Isimud spoke to the
brick building; he praised
the E-engura {with sweet
songs} {(1 ms. has
instead:) duly.}

71-82. As it has been
built, as it has been
built; as Enki has raised
Eridug up, it is an
artfully built mountain
which floats on the
water. His shrine (?)
spreads (?) out into the
reedbeds; birds brood {(1
ms. adds:) at night} in
its green orchards laden
with fruit. The suhur
carp play among the
honey-herbs, and the
ectub carp dart among
the small gizi reeds.

When Enki rises, the fish
rise before him like
waves. He has the abzu
stand as a marvel, as he
brings joy into the engur.

83-92. Like the sea, he
is awe-inspiring; like a
mighty river, he instils
fear. The Euphrates rises
before him as it does
before the fierce south
wind. His punting pole is
{Nirah} {(some mss. have
instead:) Imdudu}; his oars
are the small reeds.

When Enki embarks, the
year will be full of
abundance. The ship
departs of its own
accord, with tow rope
held (?) by itself. As he
leaves the temple of
Eridug, the river gurgles
(?) to its lord: its sound
is a calf's mooing, the
mooing of a good cow.

93-95. Enki had oxen
slaughtered, and had sheep
offered there lavishly.

Where there were no ala
drums, he installed some
in their places; where
there were no bronze ub
drums, he despatched
some to their places.

96-103. He directed his
steps on his own to
Nibru and entered the
temple terrace, the shrine
of Nibru. Enki reached
for (?) the beer, he
reached for (?) the

liquor. He had liquor
poured into big bronze
containers, and had
emmer-wheat beer pressed
out (?). In kukuru
containers which make the
beer good he mixed
beer-mash. By adding
date-syrup to its taste
(?), he made it strong.
He its bran-mash.
104-116. In the shrine of
Nibru, Enki provided a
meal for Enlil, his father.
He seated An at the
head of the table and
seated Enlil next to An.
He seated Nintur in the
place of honour and
seated the Anuna gods at
the adjacent places (?).
All of them were drinking
and enjoying beer and
liquor. They filled the
bronze aga vessels to the
brim and started a
competition, drinking from
the bronze vessels of
Urac. They made the
tilimda vessels shine like
holy barges. After beer
and liquor had been
libated and enjoyed, and
after from the
house, Enlil was made
happy in Nibru.
117-129. Enlil addressed
the Anuna gods: "Great
gods who are standing
here! Anuna, who have
lined up in the
Ubcu-unkena! My son, King
Enki has built up the
temple! He has made
Eridug {rise up (?)} {(1
ms. has instead:) come
out} from the ground like
a mountain! He has built
it in a pleasant place, in
Eridug, the pure place,
where no one is to enter
-- a temple built with
silver and decorated with
lapis lazuli, a house which
tunes the seven tigi
drums properly, and
provides incantations;
where holy songs make all

of the house a lovely
place -- the shrine of
the abzu, the good
destiny of Enki, befitting
the elaborate divine
powers; the temple of
Eridug, built with silver:
for all this,
Father Enki be praised!"
